

REMARKS

Claims 3 and 4 are pending, with claims 1 and 2 having been canceled above, and with claims 3 and 4 having been amended above so as to be in independent form, including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 3 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yokota (U.S. 7,072,082) and further in view of JP 10-186535. From the lack of any detailed reason being listed for including claims 3 and 4 in the rejection (see paragraph 2 of the Office Action) and from the indication in paragraph 3 of the Office Action that "claims 3 and 4 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims", it appears that the Examiner inadvertently wrote "Claims 1 - 4 are rejected" when he intended to write -- Claims 1 and 2 are rejected -- at the beginning of paragraph 2 of the Office Action. Therefore, careful reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 3 and 4 stand objected to, as noted in paragraph 3 of the Office Action. Reconsideration of this objection is respectfully requested in view of claims 3 and 4 each having been amended above so as to be in independent form, and so as to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim(s).

Having canceled claims 1 and 2, and having amended claims 3 and 4 so that each is in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims (as

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suggested by the Examiner), it is respectfully requested that a Notice of Allowability be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

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